

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET				
SUBJECT: (Optional) Monthly Report -- Seoul Bureau				
FROM: Chief, Operations Group		EXTENSION	NO.	
			DATE September 1987	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. C/Ops	16 Oct		B	kan B JB
2.				
3. C/E&PS	19 Oct		I	
4. DD/FBIS	10/20		6	
5. D/FBIS			R	
6.				
7. PO/RA	10/20		Om	
8. SA/CD	10/20		Ent	EF
9. ops				
10. C/AS	22 Oct		CR	
11.				
12. C/AG		23 Oct	g	
13. Admin Staff			Q	
14. C/B&F				
15. Exec. Reg.				



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
SEOUL BUREAU



MSK-7017
5 October 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Seoul Bureau -- September 1987

I. GENERAL

A. The resumption of student-led violent demonstrations widely predicted for South Korea in September did not materialize. And, in fact, the widespread labor disputes that had characterized August had also largely subsided by the end of the month. The action shifted from the streets and factories to the political arena where much jockeying for position continues among opposition politicians and between the two major parties. Many, however, are predicting that street demonstrations will pick up as the election campaign gains momentum in November and December.

B. A strike by Northwest Airlines personnel in Seoul caused problems for many, including an AG TDYer, and was continuing at the end of the month. There is some concern that Northwest may drop its Seoul operations entirely because of the serious labor situation it is facing. Fortunately, the TDYer did just manage to get an alternate flight to permit departure on the date originally scheduled.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. Much of the Bureau's file was taken up with political events in the South. The ruling Democratic Justice Party and opposition Reunification Democratic Party jointly submitted a constitutional amendment on 18 September, leaving some of the thornier issues for further legislation, and the presidential campaign unofficially began. No Tae-u, the ruling party candidate, made a visit to the U.S. and Japan which generated extensive comment, and Kim Chong-pil, the former heir apparent to the Pak Chong-hui regime, announced his plans to form a new party. He is also expected to seek the ROK presidency. Meanwhile, the opposition RDP seemed ready to split when Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung were unable to agree on who would be the party's candidate. The Bureau filed a number of items on their unsuccessful 29 September meeting at immediate precedence in response to a request from a Headquarters consumer.

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2. South Korean media have become noticeably freer. The major evening newscast of Seoul Television Service, the state-run KBS 1, was put on regular coverage as a result, and the effort yielded Kim Tae-chung's first South Korean television interview in 13 years. The Bureau also recorded and sent to MOD for evaluation a number of recordings of a Seoul television newscast carried earlier than the main evening cast containing an English-language soundtrack of the domestic portion of the news. After evaluation, consumers said they preferred to continue to receive the Korean-language cast. In addition, it was announced that the Christian Broadcasting System would be allowed to resume its newscasts in October, which will be checked out by the Bureau. Despite initial government resistance, two monthly magazines published controversial interviews with former KCIA chief Yi Hu-rak concerning the abduction of Kim Tae-chung from Tokyo in 1973. Both are on Bureau coverage but had not been received by month's end.

3. Initial fears that the North's clandestine "Voice of National Salvation" would be lost to the Bureau due to strong interference eased as the 0200 GMT afternoon broadcast was heard on its medium wave frequency throughout the month with the use of the Bureau's remote antennas. A brief survey at a site near the DMZ yielded no better reception than could be had at the Bureau.

4. A ceremony marking the official sending of invitations for the Olympics broadcast live from Lausanne was met with much fanfare in downtown Seoul. Meanwhile, the North continued its campaign for cohosting the Olympics with a proposal to the South for direct talks on the matter, sent on the eve of the Lausanne ceremony. The South indicated it would only talk to the North on the basis of the IOC's "final" proposal. In other North-South developments, the North appears to have indicated a more flexible position on the North-South foreign ministerial talks in a press statement issued on 24 September, the day after the date it had proposed for "preliminary" vice foreign ministerial talks.

B. Technical

The Bureau purchased locally a Samsung CT-1483 "bilingual" or dual audio channel television receiver SN 067100796, and a Samsung SV-660 "bilingual" videocassette recorder SN 060100710.

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

1. Korean Unit Chief [] remained hospitalized a1STAT month undergoing tests for a stomach ailment. Surgery has been put off several times, but is now scheduled for 5 October.

2. On the 25th, Korean monitor [] turned in a let1STAT of resignation effective 10 October. Steps were initiated to advertise for a replacement.

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IV. VISITS

A. [] of Admin Staff's Personnel Section visited TDY 5-9 September. She briefed Bureau personnel and interested foreign nationals on current personnel issues and met selected Embassy officers. STAT

B. AG division chief [] 16-20 September for bureau familiarization and tour along with discussions with selected Embassy officers. STAT

C. TDY State INR analyst John Merrill visited the Bureau on the 28th for a tour and discussion of lateral services.

V. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Bureau editors [] emerged as the Korea central region trivia challenge team champions after a gruelling series of matches in Seoul. They both received handsome trophies and an invitation to compete in the Korea-wide Trivial Pursuit team championship in October. The competition is sponsored by the Combined Forces Korea recreation services. STAT

[] STAT
Chief, Seoul Bureau

Attachment:
Monthly Production Report

cc: Chief, Okinawa Bureau
Chief, Hong Kong Bureau

Seoul Bureau Production Report for September 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	708890
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	154660
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1837

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	13265.00	5510.00	100.23
(minutes or issues per week)	min.	min.	issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

CHINA

Beijing International service in Korean to Korea	2900	
Beijing City Service in Mandarin	700	
Changchun Jilin Provincial Service in Mandarin	13680	
Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in Mandarin	13420	
Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in Mandarin	11420	
Jinan Shandong Provincial Service in Mandarin	17360	
Shenyang Liaoning Provincial Service in Mandarin	9730	
Shijiazhuang Hebei Provincial Service in Mandarin	1900	
Tianjin City Service in Mandarin	1560	
Beijing BEIJING RIBAO in Chinese		8170
Changchun JILIN RIBAO in Chinese		3370
Harbin HEILONGJIANG RIBAO in Chinese		17510
Jinan DAZHONG RIBAO in Chinese		3550
Shenyang DONGBEI JINGJI BAO in Chinese		3150
Shenyang LIAONING RIBAO in Chinese		4250
Shijiazhuang HEBEI RIBAO in Chinese		17100

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Tianjin TIANJIN RIBAO in Chinese			9310
Yanji City YONBYON ILBO in Korean			0
CLANDESTINE (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea	18050		
KOREA (NORTH) Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean	145840		
Pyongyang Television Service in Korean	1600		
Pyongyang KCNA in English		163350	
Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean			9600
Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in Korean			0
KOREA (SOUTH) Seoul Domestic Service in Korean	9560		
Seoul Television Service in Korean	3950		
Seoul YONHAP in English		50520	
Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean			10000
Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean			4200
Seoul Editorial Report on ROK Media Korean			2000
Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean			3650
Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean			1900
Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean			1400
Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English			41100
Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English			90270
Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean			11170
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS Moscow International Service in Korean	1650		